House Memorial

A memorial to the President of the United States, urging the President to issue final approval for construction and completion of the Keystone XL pipeline project.

WHEREAS, Floridians consume approximately 26 million gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel daily and approximately 9.5 billion gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel annually, and

WHEREAS, across party lines, Floridians have long recognized the dependence of the state's tourism and agricultural economy on access to reliable and affordable petroleum products, and

WHEREAS, many other Florida industries, including fertilizer, agrochemical, plastic, manufacturing, bakeries, juice processing, pulp and paper, road construction, metals, restaurants, and grocery stores, are heavily dependent on access to reliable and affordable petroleum products to transport goods, and

WHEREAS, Gulf state refineries produce the vast majority of the gasoline and diesel fuel crude oil delivered and consumed in Florida, and

WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline will be capable of transporting more than 800,000 barrels of crude oil per day to 57 Gulf state refineries, and
WHEREAS, the crude oil transported through the Keystone XL pipeline could replace oil from unstable regions of the world with oil from Canada, a friendly and historically reliable neighbor and our principal source of imported crude oil, and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration, pipelines are one of the safest and most cost-effective means to transport petroleum products, and

WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline could reduce the large numbers of tankers and barges carrying crude oil through the Straits of Florida and across the Gulf of Mexico, and

WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline will not encounter the disruptions experienced by tankers and barges delivering crude oil to Gulf state refineries during hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, thus enhancing Florida's energy security during emergencies, and

WHEREAS, the southern portion of the Keystone XL pipeline has already been approved and construction is proceeding, and

WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of State, construction of the United States portion of the Keystone XL pipeline is a $3.3 billion project that will create thousands of American jobs, and

WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline project has been subject to the most thorough public consultation process of any proposed United States pipeline, and
WHEREAS, according to the Supplementary Environmental Impact Statement issued by the United States Department of State, multiple environmental impact statements and studies have concluded that the Keystone XL pipeline poses the least impact to the environment and is much safer than other modes of transporting crude oil, and

WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline project has received bipartisan support in the United States Congress, including a letter to the President signed by 53 Senators urging the President to support the pipeline, and

WHEREAS, a recent Pew Research Center survey has found that two-thirds of Americans support the Keystone XL pipeline project, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the President of the United States is strongly urged to issue final approval for construction and completion of the Keystone XL pipeline project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.